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## **McManus calls for new regulation of DNR land acquisition**

**Lansing** – Legislation introduced in the Michigan Senate last week would require the Department of Natural Resources to consider the cost of maintaining a piece of land before it acquires that parcel, Sen. Michelle McManus (R-Lake Leelanau), sponsor of the bill, announced.

“Responsible land use and acquisition will allow future generations to enjoy Michigan’s wonderful natural beauty,” McManus said. “This legislation is a positive step towards making sure that the DNR considers all financial aspects of acquiring new land.”

Senate Bill 969 would require the DNR to prepare and consider a written analysis of the long-term costs of maintaining land prior to acquiring any new parcels. Included in their analysis would be the state's ability to pay the cost of payments in lieu of taxes.

It also would require the Natural Resources Trust Fund Board to provide the Legislature with a written analysis of the long term costs of maintaining each of the lands or rights in land it acquires. This cost analysis would also include the payments in lieu of taxes obligation when applicable.

Senate Bill 969 was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs.

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